

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company

4101 Washington Avenue
Newport News, Virginia 23607
Congressional District 3
EPA ID #: VAD001307495
Last Updated January 1, 2004



Source USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle
Newport News South 1980



Aerial Photograph of Facility

Current RCRA CA Activities

The Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company (NNS) facility is one of the EPA Region 3 high priority RCRA corrective action (CA) sites.

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has issued two Hazardous Waste Management Permits to the NNS facility under the authority of the Virginia Hazardous Waste Management Regulations (VHWMR). (The VHWMR incorporates the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), by reference, and the DEQ is a delegated authority by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to administer the RCRA Permitting Program through the VHWMR.) On September 24, 1998, the DEQ issued a Hazardous Waste Management Permit to the NNS facility for the post-closure care and CA of two former

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hazardous waste surface impoundments (regulated units). The above Permit is considered a "Post-Closure Permit," and it includes requirements for operation and maintenance (O & M), groundwater monitoring, and groundwater (CA) at the closed surface impoundments site.

The above Permit's groundwater CA requirements include the installation, O & M, monitoring, and evaluation of a (field scale) air sparging/vapor extraction pilot test system. The pilot test system requirements are to demonstrate the feasibility of remediating non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPLs) in the groundwater and sediments using the air sparging/vapor extraction technology. If the pilot test system demonstrates that the air sparging/vapor extraction system is an effective remediation technology, then a full scale remedial system design is to be submitted to the DEQ for review and approval.

Subsequent to the issuance of the above "Post-Closure Permit," the DEQ received delegated authority from the EPA for site-wide corrective action for permitted facilities under the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) of the RCRA of 1984. This site-wide CA authority was delegated to the DEQ by the EPA on September 29, 2000.

On July 13, 2001, the DEQ issued the NNS facility a Final Permit for Corrective Action to require the facility to address site-wide CA, as necessary to protect human health and the environment, for all releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents from SWMUs, and AOCs regardless of when waste was placed in the unit. The objectives of this CA Permit are to:

1. Characterize the nature and extent of releases of hazardous waste and/or hazardous constituents from SWMUs and AOCs into soil, groundwater, and sediment, and to evaluate the potential migration to surface water.
2. Characterize potential human health risks and ecological risks associated with any identified releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents.
3. Determine the need for and the scope of CA remedial measures for any releases from SWMUs and AOCs.

The above CA Permit includes Permit Modules and Attachments, which require a RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) and RFI Report, Corrective Measures Study (CMS) requirements, Interim Measures (IM) requirements, Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) requirements, Health and Safety Plan requirements, project management requirements, and communication requirements. It should be noted that the RFI requires a full risk-assessment to evaluate potential threats to both human health and the environment.

In November 2001, an RFI Workplan was submitted to the DEQ as required by the CA permit. The RFI Workplan received technical review by the DEQ and the NNS facility was provided a notice of deficiency (NOD) by DEQ correspondence, dated March 20, 2002. Several meetings were held and additional submittals were made by the NNS to resolve the technical issues associated with the above NOD. The DEQ approved the RFI Work Plan, as revised, and provided a conditional approval of the Risk Assessment Work Plan by correspondence, dated December 19, 2002. A Release Assessment Workplan is a required component of the RFI Work Plan. A Release Assessment Workplan, dated February 2003, was submitted to the DEQ on March 17, 2003.

In addition to the above, an interim measure (IM) has been implemented at SWMU/AOC 29 – An Aboveground Storage Tank (AST) located at Building 275, the Shape Preparation Facility. On February 21, 2003, the NNS facility submitted to the DEQ an IM Implementation Report for SWMU/AOC No. 29, dated February 2003. SWMU/AOC No. 29 was a steel AST (3,299 gallons) with galvanized steel piping, which was used to collect wastewater from the paint booth water curtains in the Shape Preparation Facility. The objective of the IM was to decontaminate and remove the AST, the associated piping and pump, and to decontaminate the water curtain spray pits at this site.

On July 8, 2003, the DEQ and the EPA conducted an Environmental Indicator (EI) inspection of the NNS facility. An EPA memorandum, dated July 28, 2003, provides the EPA's recommendations on the environmental assessment and evaluation of soils, subsoils, and the groundwater quality and hydrology at the site in regards to the evaluation of current human health exposure EI and the groundwater EI. It should be noted that significant additional information will need to be gathered in the environmental investigations in order to determine whether the EIs are achieved. Significantly more information is needed to address the CA requirements as specified in the Final Permit for Corrective Action.

Site Description

The NNS facility is located on the southwest edge of the City of Newport News, Virginia, and has been operating since 1888. This industrial site is a shipyard facility which encompasses approximately 0.75 square miles (480 acres), and is bounded on the north and west by the James River; on the east by Washington, Huntington, and West Avenues; and on the south by 31st Street.

The facility constructs and repairs military and commercial ships. The facility is currently owned by Northrop Grumman Corporation.

RCRA CA Milestones

The following RCRA CA milestones have been achieved at this facility:

1. A Draft Interim RCRA Facility Assessment Report for the NNS Facility was submitted to the EPA by CDM Federal Programs Corporation on February 27, 1989.
2. On September 24, 1998, the DEQ issued a Hazardous Waste Management Permit to the NNS facility for the post-closure care of two former hazardous waste surface impoundments (regulated units).

3. On July 13, 2001, the DEQ issued the NNS facility a Final Permit for Corrective Action to require the facility to address site-wide CA.
4. An RFI Work Plan, dated 12/19/02, was submitted to the DEQ.
5. The DEQ approved the RFI Work Plan, as revised, and provided a conditional approval of the Risk Assessment Work Plan by correspondence, dated December 19, 2002.
6. A Release Assessment Workplan, dated February 2003, was submitted to the DEQ on March 17, 2003. (This is a component part of the RFI Work Plan.)
7. An IM Implementation Report for SWMU/AOC No. 29 - Aboveground Storage Tank (AST) located at Building 275, the Shape Preparation Facility, was submitted to the DEQ on February 21, 2003.

Additional details concerning these milestones and the supporting documentation can be obtained by reviewing the files at the DEQ and by contacting the project managers identified in this Fact Sheet.

Environmental Indicator Status

Under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), EPA has set national goals to address high priority RCRA Corrective Action facilities by the year 2005. The NNS facility is one of the EPA Region 3 high priority facilities and falls under this initiative.

EPA is evaluating two key environmental indicators (EIs) for each facility: 1) Current Human Exposures Under Control, and 2) Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control. As of January 5, 2004, the current evaluation of Environmental Indicators for this facility is as follows:

- *Human Exposures Controlled Determination:* IN - Additional information is needed to determine if "current human exposures are under control." The above is based upon the DEQ's current Human Exposures Under Control – EI Determination, dated September 29, 2003. Please refer to form CA725 for more details.
- *Release to Groundwater Controlled Determination:* IN - Additional information is needed to determine if "migration of contaminated groundwater is under control." The above is based upon the DEQ's current Migration of Contaminated Groundwater under Control – EI Determination, dated September 29, 2003. Please refer to form CA750 for more details.

In support of the EI process, the facility submitted a Release Assessment Work Plan on

March 17, 2003.

Contaminants

A Release Assessment Work Plan was submitted to the DEQ on March 17, 2003, to help determine the potential contaminants in the soil, subsoils, and groundwater at the NNS facility and to identify potential sampling locations.

Community Involvement

The facility is in the process of developing a Community Relations Plan.

A Document Repository for the NNS facility will be specified in the Community Relations Plan. This CA Document Repository will be located in the nearby community of the NNS facility.

Government Contacts

The DEQ of the Commonwealth of Virginia has the lead authority for this CA project. Please contact the state project manager listed below for details on this project or the contents of this fact sheet.

EPA Project Manager
Mr. Mike Jacobi - 3WC23
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III
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Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
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Mr. Richard Doucette, P.G., Project Manager
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For more information about EPA's corrective action program, including Environmental Indicators please visit EPA's site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

Facility Contact

The facility contact is:

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Senior Environmental Engineer
Environmental Health and Safety
Newport News Shipbuilding
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Factsheet Updates

The next factsheet update is scheduled for 7/1/04. Previous factsheets may be obtained through the listed contacts.